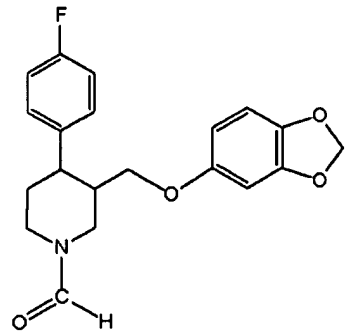
We claim:

1. A process which comprises treating an N-formyl paroxetine compound of formula (1)



(1)

with a de-formylation agent.

2. The process according to claim 1, wherein said de-formylation agent is an organic or inorganic acid.

3. The process according to claim 2, wherein said acid is selected from the group consisting of hydrochloric acid, acetic acid, formic acid, methane sulfonic acid, maleic acid, and tartaric acid.

4. The process according to claim 2, wherein said de-formylation agent is a pharmaceutically acceptable acid and said treating step forms a corresponding pharmaceutically acceptable salt of paroxetine.

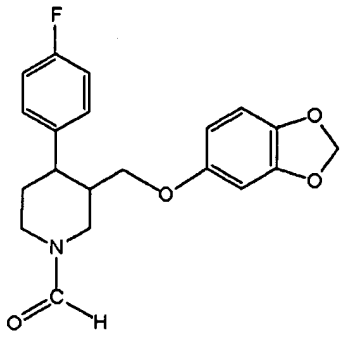
5. The process according to claim 4, wherein said treating step occurs in a solvent.

6. The process according to claim 5, wherein said acid is methane sulfonic acid and said treating step forms paroxetine methane sulfonate.

7. The process according to claim 5, wherein said acid is hydrochloric acid and said treating step forms dissolved and/or solid paroxetine hydrochloride.

8. A process, which comprises:

ingesting into a human or animal body a pharmaceutical composition comprising paroxetine hydrochloride and an N-formyl paroxetine compound of formula (1)



(1)

and

contacting *in vivo* said N-formyl paroxetine compound with hydrochloric acid to form a paroxetine hydrochloride.

9. The process according to claim 8, wherein said pharmaceutical composition contains 0.1 to 99.97% paroxetine hydrochloride based on the total amount of paroxetine hydrochloride and N-formyl paroxetine compound.

10. The process according to claim 9, wherein said pharmaceutical composition contains 0.1 to 99.95% paroxetine hydrochloride based on the total amount of paroxetine hydrochloride and N-formyl paroxetine compound.

11. The process according to claim 10, wherein said pharmaceutical composition contains 0.1 to 99.9% paroxetine hydrochloride based on the total amount of paroxetine hydrochloride and N-formyl paroxetine compound.

12. The process according to claim 8, wherein said paroxetine hydrochloride in said pharmaceutical composition is a crystalline paroxetine hydrochloride anhydrate.

13. The process according to claim 9, wherein said paroxetine hydrochloride in said pharmaceutical composition is a crystalline paroxetine hydrochloride anhydrate.

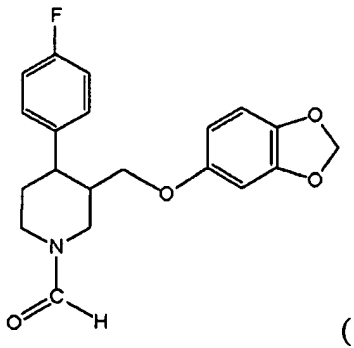
14. The process according to claim 10, wherein said paroxetine hydrochloride in said pharmaceutical composition is a crystalline paroxetine hydrochloride anhydrate.

15. The process according to claim 8, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is a tablet and further comprises a calcium phosphate, a cellulose, a starch and/or lactose.

16. The process according to claim 10, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is a tablet and further comprises a calcium phosphate, a cellulose, a starch and/or lactose.

17. The process according to claim 8, wherein said paroxetine hydrochloride resulting from said contacting step is dissolved paroxetine hydrochloride.

18. A pharmaceutical tablet comprising 1-50 mg of a crystalline paroxetine hydrochloride anhydrate, at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, and an N-formyl paroxetine compound of formula (1)



(1).

19. The tablet according to claim 18, wherein the amount of N-formyl paroxetine compound is at least 0.03% based on the combined weight of the N-formyl paroxetine compound and the paroxetine hydrochloride.

20. The tablet according to claim 19, wherein the amount of N-formyl paroxetine

compound is at least 0.05% based on the combined weight of the N-formyl paroxetine compound and the paroxetine hydrochloride.

21. The tablet according to claim 20, wherein the amount of N-formyl paroxetine compound is at least 0.1% based on the combined weight of the N-formyl paroxetine compound and the paroxetine hydrochloride.

22. The tablet according to claim 18, wherein said at least one excipient comprises at least a calcium phosphate, a cellulose, a starch and/or lactose.

23. The tablet according to claim 19, wherein said at least one excipient comprises at least a calcium phosphate, a cellulose, a starch and/or lactose.

24. The tablet according to claim 20, wherein said at least one excipient comprises at least a calcium phosphate, a cellulose, a starch and/or lactose.

25. The tablet according to claim 19, wherein said N-formyl paroxetine compound is the trans 3S, 4R enantiomer.